

street before it sinks to the water main. If the water main bursts one of the world's most terrible disasters might occur.

The elevated railways company officials are fearful of the consequences. Their trains carry 40,000 to 50,000 people by that street each day. If the collapse should come at a busy hour trains might be hurled to the street and hundreds of people killed.

Kostner said he thought the sinking of Wabash avenue might be a result of the collapse of Randolph street. Others claim that the sinking is caused by the same sort of a steel retaining wall that failed on Randolph street.

At that time it was charged that the cave-in resulted from placing the steel retaining wall down instead of a solid concrete wall, which would have been safe. The steel retaining wall is a cheaper piece of construction work that John Griffiths has discovered.

While city officials and "Dapper Jimmy" Simpson were scurrying around frantically this morning trying to head off the results feared, Kostner ordered an immediate grading of the Washington street side, which is gradually sinking, although the danger there is claimed not as acute as on the Wabash avenue side.

George E. McGrath, assistant superintendent of sewers, openly charged at the time of the accident that the whole trouble with the Marshall Field building was caused by Field's refusal to spare the 21 feet width around the building necessary for a solid foundation.

Graver charges than that have been whispered around and Ericsson promises to do some real investigating today.

Kostner has already ordered the Fields to make repairs that will cost over \$100,000, but it is said that if the Field store makes all the repairs necessary for public safety it will cost several times that amount.

At the time of the Randolph street collapse Chief Engineer Fallon of the "L" companies made an investigation of Wabash avenue. After almost an entire day spent down there, 40 feet below the street, he gave warning that steps should be taken to brace the street immediately.

He put the matter up to Kostner and the latter issued orders to brace the street.

The Randolph street collapse occurred when the street sank to level of the water main and the main, unable to stand the terrific weight, burst flooding Marshall Field sub-basement.

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TIME WILL TELL



"There goes Trenchley and his bride. She seems to dress as well as before."

"Naturally. They haven't been married very long."

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THE BETTER WAY
Machines Tear Your Clothes.
We Do It By Hand Cheaper.
—Ad of Chicago Laundry,